

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A variable search method for a recording medium containing video data, comprising:

detecting and storing control information for each chapter of a title when a recording medium is inserted into a reproduction device;

performing a variable search mode comprising:

performing viewable speed reproduction on a first portion of data content of the chapter; and

performing a different speed reproduction on the remaining data content of the chapter on the basis of the stored data information.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the recording medium comprises an optical disk.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein performing viewable speed reproduction on a first portion of data content of the chapter comprises:

performing viewable speed reproduction on a pertinent track at normal speed on the basis of the stored data information; and

displaying the pertinent track as an image on a screen.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein data output on the screen has attributes comprising one of a MPEG file, PCM CD, and CD-DA.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein displaying the pertinent track as an image on a screen comprises displaying the pertinent track as an image on a screen for several seconds.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein displaying the pertinent track as an image on a screen comprises displaying the pertinent track as an image on a screen for 1 ~ 2 second(s).

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the stored data information comprises start and end positions of each chapter, attribute information for each chapter, and start track number of each item of each chapter stored on the recording medium.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the variable search mode is repeatedly performed until the last chapter of a title is reproduced.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the different speed reproduction comprises one of a reference speed search mode for reproducing the recording medium

at a reference speed, a higher speed search mode for reproducing the recording medium at a speed higher than the reference speed, and a lower speed search mode for reproducing the recording medium at a speed lower than the reference speed.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the different speed reproduction comprises lower speed reproduction.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the viewable speed reproduction is performed on a predetermined portion, including a first I-frame of each chapter, and thereafter the different speed reproduction is performed until a predetermined portion, including a first I-frame of a next chapter, is detected, and the above-mentioned processes are performed repeatedly in the variable search mode.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the different speed reproduction comprises higher speed reproduction.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising varying the reproduction speed in the variable search mode using a channel up/down key according to a user input.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein varying the reproduction speed in the variable search mode comprises varying the reproduction speed in the variable search mode using a channel up/down key according to a user input.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the reproduction speed can be reduced in the lower speed search mode according to a channel up/down input, and the reproduction speed can be increased in the higher speed search mode according to a channel up/down input.

16. A variable search method for a recording medium containing video data, comprising:

detecting reproduction control information for each chapter recorded on the lead-in area of a recording medium and storing the reproduction control information;

performing a variable search mode, when a search command is received, in which a first portion, including a first I-frame, of each chapter of a title of the recording medium, is reproduced for a specific time at a viewable speed on the basis of the reproduction control information and the remaining portions are reproduced at a different speed; and

varying the different speed according to a user command.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the viewable speed reproduction is performed on the predetermined portion, including a first I-frame of each chapter, on the basis of the reproduction control information read from a lead-in area of the recording medium, and then the different speed reproduction is performed until a predetermined portion, including a first I-frame of a next chapter, is detected, and thereafter the above-mentioned processes are performed repeatedly until a last chapter is reached.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the different speed reproduction comprises higher speed reproduction.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the different speed reproduction comprises lower speed reproduction.

20. Apparatus for reproducing video information on a recording medium, comprising:

a pick up unit configured to detect a recording signal on a recording medium;

a RF (radio frequency) processing unit configured to filter/shape the signal detected by the pick up unit;

a driving unit configured to drive the pick up unit and a motor;

a servo unit configured to control operation of the driving unit;

a microcomputer configured to perform viewable speed reproduction on data of a predetermined portion of the recording medium by controlling the RF processing unit and the driving unit through the servo unit when a viewable reproduction mode is selected, and when a variable search mode is selected, performing viewable speed reproduction on a predetermined portion, including a first I-frame of each chapter, and performing a different speed reproduction on the remaining portions of the chapter at variable speed; and

a memory configured to store attribute information of a data block of each session of the optical disk.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising:

a digital signal processing unit configured to convert a signal read by the RF processing unit into a digital signal, restore it into original data and output the data according to a data format;

an MPEG decoder configured to code the restored compressed data into moving picture data and output it; and

an output data converter configured to convert the restored PCM (pulse code modulation) or text frame into audio and characters and output it.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the different speed is a reference speed, a speed higher than the reference speed, or a speed lower than the reference speed.

23. The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a channel up/down input, wherein the microcomputer performs search at the lower search speed or the higher search speed by controlling the operation of the RF processing unit and the driving unit through the servo unit in the variable speed search operation in accordance with a user input via the channel up/down input.

24. A variable search method for a recording medium containing video data, comprising:

detecting and storing control information for each title when a recording medium is inserted into a reproduction device;

performing a variable search mode comprising:

performing viewable speed reproduction on a first portion of data content of the title; and

performing a different speed reproduction on the remaining data content of the title on the basis of the stored data information.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the recording medium comprises an optical disk.

26. The method of claim 24, wherein performing viewable speed reproduction on a first portion of data content of the title comprises:

performing viewable speed reproduction on a pertinent track at normal speed on the basis of the stored data information; and

displaying the pertinent track as an image on a screen.

27. The method of claim 24, wherein the different speed reproduction comprises one of a reference speed search mode for reproducing the recording medium at a reference speed, a higher speed search mode for reproducing the recording medium at a speed higher than the reference speed, and a lower speed search mode for reproducing the recording medium at a speed lower than the reference speed.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein the viewable speed reproduction is performed on a predetermined portion, including a first I-frame of each title, and thereafter the different speed reproduction is performed until a predetermined portion, including a first I-frame of a next title, is detected, and the above-mentioned processes are performed repeatedly in the variable search mode.